GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:523
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of foodgrains procured from the farmers during the last three years and the current year alongwith the price at which the said foodgrains were procured, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of foodgrains including rice estimated and actually procured during 2005-06 and 2006-07 so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the current procurement is as per the estimates;

(d) the details of foodgrains released both in the open market and for welfare schemes during the said period alongwith the price thereof;

(e) whether the Government has made any review of foodgrain procurement procedure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 523 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 22.05.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): The quantum of foodgrains procured in the last three years and in the current year are given in Annexures I & II. The prices at which these foodgrains were procured are given in Annexure-III.

(b): The quantum of foodgrains estimated and actually procured during 2005-06 and 2006-07 so far, are given at Annexures-IV & V.

(c): The procurement of paddy/rice in KMS 2005-06 is more than the estimates. However, procurement of wheat in RMS 2006-07 is less than the estimates.

(d): Foodgrains released under TPDS, welfare scheme and Open Market Sales Schemes (OMSS) from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is indicated in Annexure-VI. Foodgrains under welfare schemes are issued at BPL rates except under SGRY, and the Village Grain Bank Scheme for which supply is made to beneficiaries `free of cost`.

Prices of wheat under OMSS are basically fixed on a quarterly basis, keeping in view the acquisition cost and freight. These prices are fixed crop-year wise and vary from region to region. The prices of wheat under OMSS for the crop year 2005-06 for the quarter January to March, 2006 ranged between Rs. 825 to 966 per quintal. Rice is generally sold under OMSS through tender.

(e) & (f): The Government continuously reviews the procurement operation to ensure that price support operations are made active.